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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/352,335

Applicant(s)

MORI, HIROMI

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12/02/02 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on 12/02/02 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/352,335 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

3. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicant's admitted prior art.

As to claim 1, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches a printing process for a printer, the process comprising the steps of:

displaying a first window on a display (100 in fig. 9), the first window indicating a set data for the printer (i.e., a set data for the printer including name, type, where, print range, copies), to be confirmed or changed by a user (It is noted that this window which has an object "OK button" or "Cancel button" for a user to confirm or which has change the optional setting at "Print range" or "Properties" 102 in fig. 9; and page 3, lines 7-14) ;

displaying a second window (fig. 10) different from the first window on the display based on a setting set by the user on the first window, the second window indicating at least part of the

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set data, to be confirmed or changed by the user (after selecting "properties" button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window, such as "Orientation", "Paper size"... in which the user can change or confirm by "OK" button), the at least part of the set data being stored in a storage region (page 2, lines 9-11, the set data for the printer stored in the print setting storage region 94, which would be displayed to any of windows, relates to the attributes of the printer);

then, originating at least one of print data necessary for printing by the printer and control data for controlling the printer, the control data being originated on the basis of the at least part of the set data stored in the storage region (page 2, lines 6-10); and

outputting at least one of the originated print data and the originated control data to the printer (page 2, lines 16-25).

As to claim 2, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches that the displaying step of the second window is executed in accordance with a print setting program (a printer driver program, 90 in fig. 8, including a setting module 91, which would be considered as a print setting program, for providing the setting data to any window in fig. 9 or 10 or 11) an instruction for starting the program being stored in the set data (page 2, lines 7-10).

As to claim 3, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches of updating the second window, displayed on the display when the at least part of the set data (the second window is displayed with the default set data, such as the set data in the section of "Orientation" or "Paper size", is read from the a print setting storage region 94 "page 2, lines 9-10"; then the operator changes the setting which

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is written into the same memory 94 "page 2, lines 12-16". Therefore, this updated setting data could be displayed into the second window for updated setting data).

As to claim 4, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches the printer has a plurality of discharge positions and can discharge a printer paper to a discharge position specified previously (page 3, lines 15-16); the at least part of the set data includes the discharge position; the specified discharge position is displayed on the window (see fig. 11 for setting by the user one of specified trays page 3, lines 23-25); the specified discharge position is displayed on the second window (a window in fig. 11 is selected by "Mailbox setup" 114 including discharge position such as tray 1 or tray 2); the originated control data includes the data which represent the discharge positions; and the control data is outputted to the printer prior to the print data (since the setting data in the memory 94 is the data displayed to all of windows in fig. 9, 10 and 11 "page 2, lines 6-13", this data would include the discharge setting data and position setting data are provided to the window to the user for setting; and this control data is outputted to the printer prior to the print data "page 2, lines 20-25").

As to claim 5, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 4, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches the displaying step of the second window (fig. 11) involves changing the discharge position into another discharge position (the user can select any discharge position in the box of "Output Bin" in fig. 11) and updating the changed discharge position (page 2, lines 12-16).

As to claim 6, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 4, Applicant's admitted prior art further discloses the displaying step of the second window (fig.

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11) involves displaying the plurality of discharge positions of the printer on the display (the box of "Output Bin" displays the discharge positions of the printer).

As to claim 7, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 4, Applicant's admitted prior art further discloses the displaying step of the second window (fig. 11) further includes confirming whether the discharge position has been updated after the specified discharge position is displayed on the display (page 2, lines 12-25: the second window is displayed with the default set data, such as the set data in the section of "Orientation" or "Paper size", is read from the a print setting storage region 94 "page 2, lines 9-10"; then the operator changes the setting which is written into the same memory 94 "page 2, lines 12-16". Therefore, this updated setting data could be displayed into the second window for updated setting data).

As to claim 8, Applicant's admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 4, Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches the storage region includes a plurality of regions (page 2, lines 9-12: It would be understood that the memory for storing a plurality of the set of the set data is distributed to windows. Thus, each set of the set data would be stored in each region of the memory).

As to claim 9, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches a printing process for a printer, the process comprising the steps of:

displaying a first window on a display (100 in fig. 9), the first window indicating a set data for the printer (i.e., a set data for the printer including name, type, where, print range, copies), to be confirmed or changed by a user (this window which has an object "OK button" or

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“Cancel button” for a user to confirm or which has change the optional setting at “Print range” or “Properties” 102 in fig. 9; and page 3, lines 7-14) ;

displaying a second window (fig. 10) different from the first window on the display based on a setting set by the user on the first window, the second window indicating at least part of the set data, to be confirmed or changed by the user (after selecting “properties” button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window , such as “Orientation”, “Paper size”... in which the user can change or confirm by “OK” button), the at least part of the set data being stored in a storage region (page 2, lines 9-11);

then, originating at least one of print data necessary for printing by the printer and control data for controlling the printer, the control data being originated on the basis of the at least part of the set data stored in the storage region (page 2, lines 6-10).

As to claim 10, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches a printing processor for a printer, the processor (i.e., CPU in page 1, lines 16-18) comprising:

a memory (94 in fig. 8);

print data originating means (i.e., a printing module 92 in fig. 8)for originating print data necessary for printing by the printer (page 2, lines 8-9 and 20-21);

control data origination means (i.e., a printing module 92 in fig. 8) for originating, on the basis of set data stored previously in the memory (page 2, lines 9-10), control data for controlling the printer (page 2, lines 8-9 and 22-23);

output means (i.e., printing module 92 in fig. 8) for outputting at least one of the originated print data and the set data to the printer (page 2, lines 20 and 23-24);

a display (i.e., a GUI, page 3, lines 3-4) for displaying a first window on a display (100 in fig. 9), the first window indicating a set data for the printer (i.e., a set data for the printer including name, type, where, print range, copies), to be confirmed or changed by a user (this window which has an object “OK button” or “Cancel button” for a user to confirm or which has change the optional setting at “Print range” or “Properties” 102 in fig. 9; and page 3, lines 7-14), and a second window (fig. 10) different from the first window on the display based on a setting set by the user on the first window, the second window indicating at least part of the set data, to be confirmed or changed by the user (after selecting “properties” button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window, such as “Orientation”, “Paper size”... in which the user can change or confirm by “OK” button), the at least part of the set data being stored in a storage region (page 2, lines 9-11);

a setting means (i.e., a printer driver 90 including setting module 91 in fig. 8) for setting to display the second window (page 2, lines 7-8: the printer driver includes a setting module 91 for managing the data set to windows in fig. 9, 10 and 11); and

control means (i.e., the printer driver 90 in fig. 8) for controlling the display so as to display the second window (i.e., a window 110 in fig. 10) on the display based on the setting set by the setting means before the print data or the control data originated (page 3, lines 1-6 and 23-25: the printer driver 90 for operating the GUI to display the second window 110 on the basis of a setting data from a setting module “page 2, lines 7-8”).

As to claim 11, Applicant’s admitted prior art discloses every feature discussed in claim 10, Applicant’s admitted prior art further teaches the storage region includes a plurality of regions (page 2, lines 9-12: It would be understood that the memory for storing a plurality of the

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set of the set data is distributed to windows. Thus, each set of the set data would be stored in each region of the memory).

As to claim 12, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 10, Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches the printer includes a plurality of dischargers (See a box of "Output Bin" in fig. 11 including the plurality of trays), the control data being data for designating at least one of the dischargers (the control data is originated by the user via printer driver in page 2, lines 6-10 and the control data is in corresponding with the set data in window of fig. 11 including at least one of trays in "Output Bin").

As to claim 13, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 12, Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches the print data origination means and the control data origination means are a printer driver printing module (page 2, lines 7-9 and 20-25).

As to claim 14, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 12, Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches updating means for updating the designated discharger on the display (page 2, lines 12-16: the second window is displayed with the set data, such as the set data of Trays in the section of "Output Bin", is read from the a print setting storage region 94 "page 2, lines 9-10"; then the operator changes the setting which is written into the same memory 94 "page 2, lines 12-16". Therefore, this updated setting data could be displayed into the second window for updated setting data).

As to claim 15, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 14, Applicant's admitted prior art further teaches the updating means rewrites, when the designated discharger is changed into another discharger, the discharger designation stored in the memory (the second window is displayed with the set data, such as the set data in the section of "Output

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Bin” including number of Tray positions, is read from the a print setting storage region 94 “page 2, lines 9-10”; then the operator changes the setting which is written into the same memory 94 “page 2, lines 12-16”).

As to claim 16, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 12, Applicant’s admitted prior art further teaches the plurality of dischargers are shown on the display (See a box of “Output Bin” in fig. 11 including the plurality of trays).

As to claim 17, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches a printing processor for a printer, the processor comprising:

- a printing unit (i.e., printer for receiving the data from the printer driver, page 2, lines 20-25);

- a memory (94 in fig. 8);

- print data originating means (i.e., a printing module 92 in fig. 8) for originating print data necessary for printing by the printer (page 2, lines 8-9 and 20-21);

- control data origination means (i.e., a printing module 92 in fig. 8) for originating, on the basis of set data stored previously in the memory (page 2, lines 9-10), control data for controlling the printer (page 2, lines 8-9 and 22-23);

- output means (i.e., printing module 92 in fig. 8) for outputting at least one of the originated print data and the set data to the printer (page 2, lines 20 and 23-24);

- a display (i.e., a GUI, page 3, lines 3-4) for displaying a first window on a display (100 in fig. 9), the first window indicating a set data for the printer (i.e., a set data for the printer including name, type, where, print range, copies), to be confirmed or changed by a user (this window which has an object “OK button” or “Cancel button” for a user to confirm or which has

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change the optional setting at “Print range” or “Properties” 102 in fig. 9; and page 3, lines 7-14), and a second window (fig. 10) different from the first window on the display based on a setting set by the user on the first window, the second window indicating at least part of the set data, to be confirmed or changed by the user (after selecting “properties” button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window , such as “Orientation”, “Paper size”... in which the user can change or confirm by “OK” button), the at least part of the set data being stored in a storage region (page 2, lines 9-11);

a setting means (i.e., a printer driver 90 including setting module 91 in fig. 8) for setting to display the second window (page 2, lines 7-8: the printer driver includes a setting module 91 for managing the data set to windows in fig. 9, 10 and 11); and

control means (i.e., the printer driver 90 in fig. 8) for controlling the display so as to display the second window (i.e., a window 110 in fig. 10) on the display based on the setting set by the setting means before the print data or the control data originated (page 3, lines 1-6 and 23-25: the printer driver 90 for operating the GUI to display the second window 110 on the basis of a setting data from a setting module “page 2, lines 7-8”).

As to claim 18, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 17, Applicant’s admitted prior art further teaches the printer includes a plurality of dischargers (See a box of “Output Bin” in fig. 11 including the plurality of trays), the control data being data for designating at least one of the dischargers (the control data is originated by the user via printer driver in page 2, lines 6-10 and the control data is in corresponding with the set data in window of fig. 11 including at least one of tray in “Output Bin”).

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As to claim 19, Applicant's admitted prior art teaches a recording medium in which a printer driver program is recorded (page 2, lines 1-5), the program causing a computer to execute the steps of:

displaying a first window on a display (100 in fig. 9), the first window indicating a set data for the printer (i.e., a set data for the printer including name, type, where, print range, copies), to be confirmed or changed by a user (this window which has an object "OK button" or "Cancel button" for a user to confirm or which has change the optional setting at "Print range" or "Properties" 102 in fig. 9; and page 3, lines 7-14) ;

displaying a second window (fig. 10) different from the first window on the display based on a setting set by the user on the first window, the second window indicating at least part of the set data, to be confirmed or changed by the user (after selecting "properties" button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window , such as "Orientation", "Paper size" ... in which the user can change or confirm by "OK" button), the at least part of the set data being stored in a storage region (page 2, lines 9-11);

then, originating at least one of print data necessary for printing by the printer and control data for controlling the printer, the control data being originated on the basis of the at least part of the set data stored in the storage region (page 2, lines 6-10); and

outputting at least one of the originated print data and the originated control data to the printer (page 2, lines 16-25).

As to claim 20, a printing processor (i.e., CPU) which is connected to a printer, a memory (i.e. 94 in fig. 8), and a display (i.e., a GUI) for displaying a first window indicating set data of

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the printer (fig. 9 and page 3, lines 2-4), which is stored in the memory (i.e., 94 in fig. 8 and page 2, lines 9-10), the processor comprising:

a printer driver (90 in fig. 8) for driving the printer and setting the set data (page 2, lines 1-5);

print setting means (i.e., a setting module 91 in fig. 8) for setting at least part of the set data (page 2, lines 7-8) and controlling the display to display a second window (a window in fig. 10) different from the first window (a window in fig. 9) indicates at least part of the set data (after selecting “properties” button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window , such as “Orientation”, “Paper size”),

updating means for updating the at least part of the set data stored in the memory through the printer driver or the print setting means (page 2, lines 12-16);

controlling means (i.e., the printer driver 90 in fig. 8) for controlling the print setting means (i.e., a setting module 91 in fig. 8) such that the display displays on the second window (a window in fig. 10) the at least part of the set data updated by the updating means, when the at least part of the set data has been updated through the printer driver (the second window is displayed with the default set data, such as “Orientation” or “Paper size”, is read from the a print setting storage region 94 “page 2, lines 9-10”; then the operator changes the setting which is written into the same memory 94 “page 2, lines 12-16”. Therefore, this updated setting data could be displayed into the second window for updating the setting data);

wherein the first and second windows are confirmable and changeable windows by a printer user(the first window which has an object “OK button” or “Cancel button” for a user to confirm or which has change the optional setting at “Print range” or “Properties” 102 in fig. 9;

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and page 3, lines 7-14; after selecting “properties” button, the second window is displayed with other set data, which are related to the setting data from the first window , such as “Orientation”, “Paper size”... in which the user can change or confirm by “OK” button), , the at least part of the set data being stored in a storage region (page 2, lines 9-11).

As to claim 21, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 20, Applicant’s admitted prior art further teaches the print data origination means and the control data origination means are a printer driver printing module (page 2, lines 7-9 and 20-25).

As to claim 22, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 21, Applicant’s admitted prior art further teaches the print setting means controls the display to display the second window before the output means outputs the at least one of the originated print data and the set data to the printer (page 2, lines 12-25: the data setting to the window which is either window in fig. 9 or fig. 10 or fig. 11, is updated to the memory 94, then the printer driver process for originating the print data and control data for outputting to a printer).

As to claim 23, Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches every feature in claim 20, Applicant’s admitted prior art further teaches updating means for updating the designated discharger on the display (page 2, lines 12-16: the second window is displayed with the set data, such as the set data of Trays in the section of “Output Bin”, is read from the a print setting storage region 94 “page 2, lines 9-10”; then the operator changes the setting which is written into the same memory 94 “page 2, lines 12-16”. Therefore, this updated setting data could be displayed into the second window for updated setting data).

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Response to Arguments

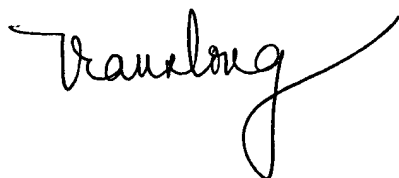
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. This action is made **non-final**.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Feb. 05, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tran Douglas", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.